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# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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### NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

D.P.U. 20-80

March 23, 2022

Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into the role of gas local distribution companies as the Commonwealth achieves its target 2050 climate goals.

On October 29, 2020, the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") voted to open an investigation into potential policies that will enable the Commonwealth to reach its goal of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and the role of Massachusetts gas local distribution companies ("LDCs") in achieving that goal. Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into the role of gas local distribution companies as the Commonwealth achieves its target 2050 climate goals, D.P.U. 20-80, Vote and Order Opening Investigation at 7 (October 29, 2020) ("Order"). The Department docketed this matter as D.P.U. 20-80.

In its Order, the Department directed the LDCs to initiate a joint request for proposals ("RFP") for an independent consultant to conduct a study and prepare a report ("Report") within the parameters discussed in the Order. Order at 4. The resulting Report is to inform and support separate proposals from each LDC that include the LDC's recommendations and plans for helping the Commonwealth achieve its 2050 climate goals ("Proposals"). Order at 6. On March 18, 2022, the LDCs submitted the Report and their Proposals.

Due to certain ongoing safety measures and precautions relating to in person events as a result of the COVID19 pandemic, the Department will conduct two virtual public hearings to receive comments on the Report and the Proposals. The Department will conduct two public hearings using Zoom videoconferencing:

- Tuesday, May 3, 2022, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, May 5, 2022, beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Attendees can join the May 3, 2022 hearing at 7:00 p.m. by entering the link,

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The text of the email must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 20-80); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic file name should identify the document but should not exceed 50 characters in length. Importantly, all large files submitted must be broken down into electronic files that **do not exceed 20 MB**.

At this time, a paper copy of the Report and the Proposals will not be available for public viewing at the LDCs' offices or the Department. The filing and other documents submitted in electronic format will be posted as soon as practicable at on the Department's website through our online File Room at:

<https://eeasonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Filteroom/dockets/bynumber> (enter "20-80").

Reasonable accommodations at public hearings for people with disabilities are available upon request. Contact the Department's ADA Coordinator at [DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov](mailto:DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov). Include a description of the accommodation you will need, including as much detail as you can. Also include a way the Department can contact